



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Peter Ellington

Serial No.: 10/663,351

Confirmation No.: 1597

Filed: September 12, 2003

For: EXPANDABLE COUPLING

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Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner:

Customer No.: 36735

MAIL STOP
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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| | |
|---|-----------|
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| William B. Patterson | |
| Typed Name | Signature |

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The Applicants, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

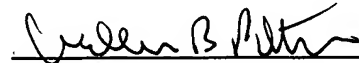
While the information submitted in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0126/WBP.

Respectfully submitted,



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|---|------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | Application Number | 10/663,351 |
| | | | Filing Date | September 12, 2003 |
| | | | First Named Inventor | Peter Ellington |
| | | | Group Art Unit | 3679 |
| | | | Examiner Name | Unknown |
| | | | Attorney Docket Number | MRKS/0126 |
| Sheet 1 | of 2 | Submission Date | February ____, 2004 | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| | A2 | US-09/762,410 | 08/09/1999 | Metcalfe | |
| | A3 | US-10/185,789 | 06/28/2002 | Setterberg | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
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Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 2

Application Number

10/663,351

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September 12, 2003

First Named Inventor

Peter Ellington

Group Art Unit

3679

Examiner Name

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

MRKS/0126

Submission Date

February _____, 2004

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T ² |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| | C1 | GB 0221220.7 Search Report | |
| | C2 | GB 0215668.5 Search Report | |
| | C3 | GB 0222321.2 Search Report | |
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| | C8 | | |
| | C9 | | |
| | C10 | | |
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